

FAQS for GRAND AWARDS JUDGES - 2006 IISEF

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Judge. Your participation is important as we try to build a pool of over 1,400 judges.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT FOR BECOMING A JUDGE?

Judges only have to be available Tuesday, May 9 and Wednesday, May 10, 2006. Registration for participating Judges is on Tuesday, May 9, from 9:00 am through 2:00 pm. That afternoon is spent training with your category section Co-Chairs, reviewing the exhibits in your category and networking with other scientists from Indianapolis, the U.S. and around the world. You will receive your specific judging assignment between 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm that Tuesday evening. The rest of the evening until about 10:30 pm you will spend reviewing your assigned projects without the student finalist present. This introduces you to which projects stand-out as potential winners and makes the judging process of the next day much easier.

Wednesday, you need to be at the Convention Center no later than 9:00 am. Judging will take place all that day and end by 8:30 pm. A nice thank you reception at the Convention Center is planned for your enjoyment from 8:30 pm until midnight.

HOW WILL MY COMPANY BENEFIT FROM SENDING JUDGES TO THE FAIR?

The benefits to your company include the following:

- 1.) Visibility - Your company will receive international visibility during the May 7-13, 2006 Fair. Your partnership can serve to highlight your business and profession before the international and national scientific community. Approximately 1,400+ scientific judges, 1,500 talented youth from around the world and ten Nobel Laureates attend each year.
- 2.) Cutting Edge Research - Your company will have the opportunity to see cutting edge research done by young scientists. About 1,500 top science and technology high school students representing 45 U.S. states and 40 global countries participate in the fair each year. Each year 15% to 19% of those students file for patents on their projects. Many come with patents already filed.
- 3.) Network with Leaders - If your company becomes an active participant in planning the fair, you will have the opportunity to network closely with community leaders throughout Indiana as the planning continues over the next year.
- 4.) Nobel Laureates - Judges and Judging Co-Chairs are invited to attend a panel session with Nobel Laureates where they may interact with them during a question and answer period.

IN ADDITION TO JUDGING, WHAT OTHER OPPORTUNITIES EXIST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FAIR?

Exhibits
Sponsorships
Volunteering
Planning Committees
Financial Gifts
In-kind donations

For more information on these opportunities, please contact Alisa Wright at akwright@bluemarble.net OR 812-361-7326. She will be happy to help you.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A GRAND AWARDS JUDGE?

A judge will interview about 8-14 student finalists on Wednesday, May 10. From 5:00 pm until about 8:30 pm that evening, judges will work with other judges in their scientific category to decide on award rankings. Consensus building will be important. Judges will need to move forward in a timely manner to decide rankings for the following awards: Best of Category Award of \$5,000, First Award of \$3,000 , Second Award of \$1,500, Third Award of \$1,000 , Fourth Award of \$500 . To learn more about the role of a judge visit Science Service's website on this topic found at http://www.sciserv.org/isef/judges/judges_process.asp To learn more about judging guidelines and criteria you may visit http://www.sciserv.org/isef/judges/judges_criteria.asp

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BECOME A JUDGE?

Judges must have a Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent (D.O., Ed.D., D.D.S., etc.) OR a minimum of six years related professional experience beyond receiving their B.A., B.S., or a master's degree. Judges may include university faculty and scientists, industrial engineers and scientists, representatives of private and federal research centers and agencies, and medical researchers. Individuals NOT ELIGIBLE to serve as ISEF Judges are science fair directors, ISEF Official Party members, or practicing elementary, secondary or high school teachers. Parents or research mentors of student finalists also are not eligible to judge.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE CO-CHAIR?

Co-Chairs usually don't Judge. Their most important role during the fair is to keep the group moving along towards consensus so that award rankings can be decided in a timely manner. Strong leadership and consensus building skills are needed. Selection of award winners needs to be completed by 8:30 pm Wednesday evening May 10, 2006.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT FOR CO-CHAIRS?

In the months leading up to the fair, the category co-chairs play a major role in recruiting judges for their category. If any co-chair positions are open for that category, the judging chair may choose a colleague to co-chair with you.

The time commitment of a co-chair before the fair is about 4 hours of training on Friday, November 5, 2005. That day training has to be in Indianapolis because Science Service is coming to assist in the training, so between travel time and training, the time commitment will be about one day.

Science Service comes to Indianapolis again sometime in March, 2006 to train co-chairs. The same time commitment is involved, about four hours of training in addition to the travel time. Robert Yost and Pam Oldknow are also available throughout the year for support and assistance with whatever training is needed.

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BECOME A CO-CHAIR?

The same credentialing and work experience required of judges is needed for the co-chairs. In addition, co-chairs need to have strong leadership, management, and communication skills. These skills will be needed in order to build consensus within a large group. Only about 3½ hours are available to decide on awards for 40-200 projects depending on the scientific category. The awards that need to be decided within each category are as follows: Best of Category Award of \$5,000, First Award of \$3,000, Second Award of \$1,500, Third Award of \$1,000, and Fourth Award of \$500.

WILL I HAVE TO PAY MY OWN TRAVEL EXPENSES?

Unfortunately yes. Each Host City needs to raise about \$1.5 million to cover the cost of putting on the fair. States with affiliate regional and state fairs have to raise funds to send their state winners and their families to the international fair. Due to the extensive fund-raising required to host a fair, the funds do not exist to cover the travel expenses of over 1,400 judges. Regarding housing, Indianapolis is currently working with nearby quality hotels to arrange for reduced rates. Other housing options are being explored. If you register to become a judge, please notice on the on-line registration form the questions asking your preferences regarding housing options.

WILL I HAVE TO PAY FOR PARKING?

No, nearby parking will be provided for registered judges.

WILL I HAVE TO BUY MY OWN MEALS?

On Tuesday, May 9, 2006, a free lunch and dinner will be provided. On Wednesday, May 10, 2006, free breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided.

HOW MANY JUDGES ARE NEEDED?

These are the categories of judges for which we will be recruiting. The anticipated numbers needed in 2006 are listed beside each category.

Behavioral and Social Sciences - 72
Biochemistry - 93
Botany - 77
Chemistry - 87
Computer Science - 78
Earth Science - 27
Engineering - 176

Environmental Science - 168
Mathematics - 65
Medicine & Health - 135
Microbiology - 82
Physics - 78
Space Sciences - 38
Zoology - 73

Estimated Total of Grand Awards Judges needed - 1249

HOW MANY AWARDS ARE DISTRIBUTED IN TOTAL?

To view all of the awards distributed during 2005 Intel ISEF in Phoenix, the winners and their projects, you may visit <http://www.sciserv.org/isef/results/grnd2005.asp> Judges will work with a scoring software which can be reviewed by visiting <http://analyticanimations.com>

WHAT OTHER COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED AT THE FAIR?

The countries represented in Phoenix, 2005 are listed below:

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| 1. Argentina | 21. Japan |
| 2. Australia | 22. Jordan |
| 3. Belarus | 23. Kazakhstan |
| 4. Brazil | 24. Malaysia |
| 5. Canada | 25. Mexico |
| 6. Chile | 26. Nigeria |
| 7. China | 27. Northern Ireland |
| 8. Chinese Taipei | 28. Norway |
| 9. Costa Rica | 29. Pakistan |
| 10. Czech Republic | 30. Peru |
| 11. Denmark | 31. Philippines |
| 12. Egypt | 32. Portugal |
| 13. Georgia Republic | 33. Puerto Rico |
| 14. Germany | 34. Russia |
| 15. Hong Kong | 35. Singapore |
| 16. Hungary | 36. South Africa |
| 17. India | 37. South Korea |
| 18. Ireland | 38. Thailand |
| 19. Israel | 39. Turkey |
| 20. Italy | 40. Ukraine |
| | 41. United Kingdom |
| | 42. Virgin Islands (U.S.A.) |

HOW DO I APPLY TO BECOME A JUDGE?

The easiest way to apply to be a Grand Awards Judge is to go on the Internet to www.intelisef2006.org. Across the top of the home page click on the icon titled "Judges". Then click on "Signing Up", "On-line Registration", and finally "For Online Registration, click here." After filling out the on-line form, be sure to click the "Submit" button. In addition to selecting your primary choice of a category/subcategory pair, PLEASE INDICATE A SECONDARY CATEGORY, IF YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO JUDGE IN ONE. In the likelihood that your first category choice is over-populated, then you will be assigned to your second choice. REMEMBER, THE SOONER YOU SIGN UP, THE GREATER IS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT YOU WILL BE PLACED IN YOUR FIRST CHOICE CATEGORY AND SUBCATEGORY. We will contact you by e-mail after we receive your initial application, after your acceptance as a member of the judging panel, and with periodic updates about the fair.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I GET PLACED IN A SUBCATEGORY OUTSIDE MY AREA OF GREATEST EXPERTISE?

Due to the large number of judges and projects, not all judges are able to be assigned to a project that matches the judges' greatest area of strength or expertise. The best way to handle this is on Tuesday, registration day, spend time getting to know the other judges in your scientific category and their areas of expertise. Then if you are assigned to judge a project outside of your greatest area of expertise, you may consult with another judge who is more familiar with that topic. You may NOT switch assignments. Most judges will think of additional questions to ask their assigned finalists. Time is allowed for this on Wednesday. You will find that you know enough about the scientific category in general to ask pertinent questions. To learn more about the types of questions you will be asking the finalist, visit Science Service's website titled "Grand Awards Judging Guidelines" - http://www.sciserv.org/isef/judges/judges_guidelines.asp

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT JUDGING IN INDIANAPOLIS IN 2006?

Robert W. Yost, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer Department of Biology
Pre-Professional Advisor
Department of Biology
Adjunct Associate Professor Department of Education
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
Direct Phone: 317-278-1147
Email: isef@iupui.edu

Pam Fleck Oldknow, B.S.N.
Medical Analyst
Barnes & Thornburg LLP
Indianapolis, Indiana
Direct Phone: 317-231-7361
Email: poldknow@btlaw.com

Always feel free to contact us. We are happy to help you with your questions.

We are delighted that you are considering volunteering as a judge for this incredible event. We realize the time commitment it represents. Please know that if you decide to join us on May 9-10, 2006, your efforts on behalf of these young people and their scientific pursuits will have a lasting impact. Thank you. Respectfully, Pam Oldknow and Robert Yost, Judging Chairs for 2006 ISEF.